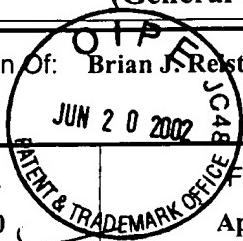


AF/280C

TRANSMITTAL LETTER
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.
113948-067

In Re Application Of: Brian J. Reistad, et al.



Serial No.
09/054,180

Filing Date
April 1, 1998

Examiner
H. Sough

Group Art Unit
2161

Title: ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM

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GROUP 3

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Response to Office Action on 14 pages and a return receipt post card

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in the above identified application.

- No additional fee is required.
- A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
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Dated: June 14, 2002

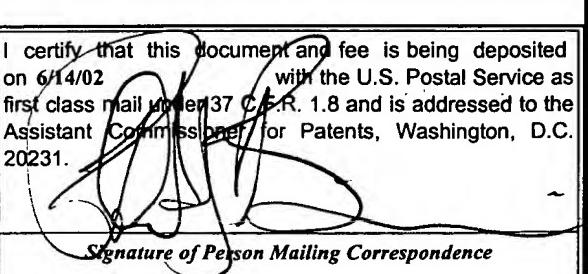
Jeffrey H. Canfield (Reg. No. 38,404)

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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 6/14/02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Brian J. Reistad et al.
Appl. No.: 09/054,180
Filed: April 1, 1998
Title: ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM
Art Unit: 2161
Examiner: H. Sough
Docket No.: 113948-067

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 20, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 3 and 37 as follows:

3. (Thrice Amended) An electronic commerce system comprising:
a client computer; and
a server computer;

the client computer and the server computer being interconnected by a public packet switched communications network;

the client computer being programmed to transmit to the server computer an order acceptance request comprising a plurality of terms or conditions of a proposed offer for a purchase, the order acceptance request comprising a discrete message that includes a plurality of modular elements whose individual integrity is protected by embedding cryptographic security codes within each of the modular elements, at least one of the modular elements individually protected by a cryptographic security code being a digital coupon;

the server computer being programmed to process the order acceptance request based on pre-programmed criteria, including authentication of the cryptographic security codes embedded within each of the modular elements and examination of the modular elements of the discrete